25th November 1948]

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Are the Government quite sure that she is going to appeal? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" She has already appealed, Sir."

Registration of births and deaths.

* 144 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether registration of births and deaths is compulsory;

(b) how many cases of unregistered births and deaths were detected during the last five years (yearwar);

(c) the reasons for defective registration; and

(d) the steps taken to tighten up the procedure for registration?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The number of unregistered births and deaths detected during the years 1943 to 1947 were as follows :—

Year.			Number of unregistered births detected.	Number of unregistered deaths detected.
1943	..	..	34,512	14,515
1944	..	..	25,742	15,315
1945	..	..	25,054	12,634
1946	..	..	22,629	7,108
1947	..	..	42,895	10,859

" (c) Failure on the part of the public who are responsible for reporting births and deaths to report all births and deaths without omissions.

" (d) The officers of the Revenue and Public Health Departments, during their tours, scrutinize birth and death registers, detect the unregistered births and deaths and cause the same to be registered, as part of their routine duties."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, what is the reason for the great increase in the number of unregistered births, as observed from the figures of 25,000 to 42,000 from the year 1943 to 1947? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" That is due to the failure on the part of the people to report. Registration work is done by the village headmen and the village headmen, as we all know, are saddled with many duties at present."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" How are the officers able to detect these omissions, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" When they go to the villages, they are able to detect many cases which are not registered."

[25th November 1948

ABDUL LATIF FAKOORHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know what action is taken against people who do not report births and deaths? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Action is taken against defaulters, Sir."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Who are the officers who are charged with the duty of registration of births and deaths in municipal towns? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There are Births and Deaths Registrars, Sir, employed in municipal towns."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Is not insufficiency of staff, Sir, one of the reasons for these unregistered births? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir. The number of Health Inspectors is too small and their jurisdiction is too large and therefore it becomes difficult for them to detect cases. They have to deal with a large number of people in a wide area."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is there any proposal to increase the Health staff in order not only to see to the proper registration of births and deaths, but also to carry out their other duties? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There have been proposals under consideration, but the difficulty is one of finance."

Termination of the services of Srimathi M. Saguna Bai, M.B.B.S.

* 145 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the services of Srimathi M. Saguna Bai, M.B.B.S., were dispensed with; and

(b) whether the Government can give the reason therefor?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) It was done in public interest."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" What is meant by public interest, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" She was reported to have Communist sympathies, Sir."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, what is meant by Communist sympathies in the case of a Lady Assistant Surgeon? Really to give one bad name and hang him, is a very serious matter, Sir. What are the activities which the police suspect of this Lady Assistant Surgeon to have committed in Kurnool? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I do not think that I should disclose the matter in the open House, Sir. If the hon. Member comes to me, I will lay the case before him."